present this is my impression based on the information I have gathered

Regarding his suggestion for the reply to be given in writing, I will be happy to do so as soon as I get the information.

MR CHAIRMAN: Question No 84.

Meeting of the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan

*84 SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA †
SHRI AJIT P K. JOGI.

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the third and the fourth round of talks between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan to ease the current tension were held in October and December, 1990;

(b) if so, what was the main agenda of the talks and what is the outcome thereof,

(c) what are the details of the agreements reached there at;

(d) whether Pakistan has agreed to close the training camps operating in that country to train extremists and to stop their activities in India; and

(e) by when the next round of talks is likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA) (a) Yes, Sir The Third Round of talks between the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan was held in Islamabad from 18-20 December, 1990

(b) and (c) There was no fixed agenda for the talks which covered almost all the issues figuring in the bilateral relations between the two countries. A copy of the Joint Press Release incorporating the outcome of the talks, is laid on the Table of the House (*See* below)

(d) Government of Pakistan claims that it does not support terrorism. However, we continue to find evidence on the ground of Pakistan's support to terrorism directed against India in Punjab and Jammu and Kashmir

(e) The Foreign Secretaries are likely to meet in New Delhi towards the end of February, 1991

Statement

Joint Press Release

The third round of talks between the Foreign Secretaries of Pakistan and India took place in Islamabad from 18th to 20th December, 1990.

During his stay in Islamabad, the Indian Foreign Secretary was received by the President and the Prime Minister of Pakistan. He also called on the Foreign Minister.

The talks were guided by the directives of the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, following their meeting in Male on 22nd November 1990 The discussions covered the whole range of bilateral issues and were held in a frank and friendly atmosphere It was decided to pursue all these issues further.

It was decided to exchange, in January 1991, the Instruments of Ratification of the Agreement on Prohibition of Attack against Nuclear Installations and facilities which was signed on 31st December 1988 and subsequently ratified by both governments

The next meetink between the Surveyors General on the demarcation of the land boundary in Sir Creek would be held in New Delhi by early February 1991 It was agreed that discussions on the Wullar Barrage/Tulbul Navigation Project would be resumed thereafter

As a means of reducing tension between the two countries, it was agreed that the Directors General Military Operations of Pakistan and India will keep in telephonic touch with each other on a weekly basis.

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Gurudas Das Gupta.

It was agreed that the meetings of the Sub-Commissions would be resumed at an appropriate time

The next meeting of the Foreign Secretaries would be held in New Delhi towards the end of February 1991. This would be preceded by a meeting of the experts to finalize the pending drafts of (i) the Agreement on Advance Notice of Military Exercises and Manoeuvres and (ii) the Agreement on Prevention of Air Space Violation by Military Aircraft

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Sir, the question has been very pinpointed I had requested the Government to let the House know whether the issue of training camps situated on the soil of Pakistan for the benefit of the terrorists to carry on murder and arson in parts of the country has been taken up with the Government of Pakistan The Minister while replying says that Pakistan is of the opinion that it is not sympathetic for them while we have evidence. It means the Government does not want to make its commitment on the question whether it has taken up the issue Therefore, my point is whether the Government had taken up the issue on the basis of the evidence that was collected by our intelligence regarding the training camps and what was the reaction of Pakistan with regard to your question Is the Government satisfied that the Government of Pakistan is telling the truth ?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : Sir, as I said, all questions that affect our relations with Pakistan were taken up including the question of training camps on the Pakistan soil Although they denied the existence of such camps, we still maintain that we have overwhelming evidence of such camps functioning in Pakistan. We have insisted all through the talks that these training camps must be stopped forthwith.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : Sir, the general policy of the country is that we don't raise issues of bilateral relations in the comity of nations, in the United Nations and all that That is what the general policy is and I agree with that. But considering the seriousness of the issue and considering the relentless activity of the Pakistan in this regard does the Government of India propose to take the matter to the international forum ? Considering the seriousness of the matter, does the Government consider that it should be raised in the international forum and Pakistan should be forced, as a result of the pressure of the international community of nations, to close the camps? (*Interruptions*). I know that it is a bilateral issue. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I consider that this is an issue of utmost importance considering the unity of the country Therefore, I do not keep myself limited within the bound of the so-called bilateralism Without putting international pressure on Pakistan, Pakistan cannot be brought to sense. It must be remembered that there has been a change of Government in Pakistan. It is the fundamentalists who are influencing the formulation of the policy That being so, considering the new situation, what additional steps would the Government like to take to pressurise Pakistan to see that the training camps are closed?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA : I agree with the hon Member that this is a very serious issue But making this issue from a bilateral one into an international one will not be helpful to us. We can certainly negotiate with Pakistan and pressurise them into closing these camps But if we make the mistake of taking this kind of a thing to the United Nations, knowing the actualities of that forum, which is a very large forum, if we internationalise these issues, rather than serving any good, they will go against our interests And therefore, the Government does not intend to take out of the bilateral fold any dispute with Pakistan

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA : What are the additional steps you propose to take ? Mr Chairman, I understand his limitation He does not want to internationalise But what is the additional step the Government is considering ? We have been talking with Pakistan for long. Year after year we have been talking with Pakistan, we have been entreating with Pakistan: Considering the failure of Indian diplomacy, what are the additional steps that the Government of India would like to take in this regard ? That is my pinpointed question to him.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA We have taken many steps to seal our borders and see that those people who get training in Pakistan are not able to cross our borders Sometimes, under the cover of artillery fire and infantry fire, they do succeed in sneaking into this country. We are also trying to tackle that question And I can assure the House that we are very vigilant about this matter and we attach utmost seriousness to this matter and we hope to settle it, if not by agreement, by our own methods

MR CHAIRMAN · Shri Ajit P. K. Jogi.

SHRI SUKOMAL SEN · Sir, he has not answered the point properly We do not want to internationalise. But Pakistan wants to do it (Interruptions)

श्री अजीत जोगी : महोदय, मुझे बोलना है कि यह यह बोलेंगे ।

मंत्री महोदय ने अपने उत्तर मे कहा है, मान्यवर, कि सचिवों के स्तर पर जो आंतकवाद और आतंकवादियो को प्रशिक्षण देने का मसला है उस पर सहमती नहीं हो रही है और पाकिस्तान यह मानने को तैयार नही है कि वहां प्रशिक्षण हो रहा है ।

तो मैं यह जनना चहूंगा कि यदि सचिवो के स्तर की मीटिंग में यह मसला हल नही हो पाया है, तो क्या इसके स्तर को बढया जाएगा विदेश मंत्री के स्तर पर या उसके ऊपर प्रधान मैत्री के स्तर पर और वहां के राष्ट्रपति के स्तर पर यह मसला उठाया जाएगा ?

श्री विद्या चरण शुक्ल : माले मे, सभापति जी, इस संबंध मे प्रधान मत्री, पाकिस्तान और पाकिस्तान के विदेश मंत्री से बात हुई थी । उन्ही बातों के आधार पर फिर जो एजंडा तय किया गया था, उसके ऊपर विदेश सचिवो की बात इस्लामाबाद मे हुई और यह बात फिर से अगले महीने भारतवर्ष में होने वाली है और मुझे उम्मीद है कि हम लोग इसमे कुछ ऐसी प्रगति कर सकेंगे, जिससे कि यह मसला हल हो सके ।

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA Sir, in spite of the assurances that have been repeatedly given by the Government of Pakistan, there have been statements also by the Pakistan Prime Minister the other day which have been widely reported that they would continue to assist and fund terrorist activity on Indian soil In view of this, I would like to ask the hon Minister as to what is his reaction In spite of all the talks, assurances and meetings, the same statements have started coming out again from the other side.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA Sir, the Prime Minister of Pakistan said that they will continue to give political and moral support to these people (*Interruptions*). What it means, we all know But he has denied any military support to the terrrorists. We know the hollowness of these claims and we do not believe whatsoever has been said on behalf of Pakistan as far as these camps are concerned and we maintain that these camps must stop functioning frm the territory of Pakistan.

MR CHAIRMAN Question Hour is over

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Nuclear Programme of Pakistan

*85 SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA
SHRI KAPIL VERMA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reports of the Pakistan Prime Minister Mr Nawaz Sharif's declaration at Lahore on December 7, 1990 to the effect that his Government would not abondon their nuclear programme for obtaining foreign aid; if so, what is Government's reaction thereto; and

(b) whether Government's attention has also been drawn to the reports of the U.S. Government offering to drop their key demand in asking Islamabad to open their nuclear facilities to international inspection on certain conditions; if so, what is Government's information about this report and also about the likely moves by the U.S. Administration for a compromise to enable the resumption of aid to Pakistan?